

## LABOR BODY MEETS TO TALK BLDG. TRADES TROUBLES

National labor officials met with representatives of warring Chicago building trades factions today to discuss the row and its causes. The meeting was held at the Morrison hotel.

The prediction is freely made that nothing will come of the meetings, that the hearings will leave the matter as much in the air as ever.

The attitude of Samuel Gompers, pres. A. F. of L., is not very pleasing to the unions fighting Simon O'Donnell and the agreement. Gompers, in a recent telegram to the C. F. of L., bitterly damned the joint agreement and it was thought that he would be as expressive today. Friends of Gompers say he is doing right in withholding immediate judgment until he can hear and digest every point.

National officers were today asked by the opponents to the agreement to interpret the A. F. of L. law which prohibits building trades councils from entering into an agreement with contractors. They feel confident the decision can be given in no way except against Simon O'Donnell's plans. No answer was given. This refusal to at once meet this issue was displeasing to the agreement opponents. They feel that the law here supports them so strongly as to settle every argument.

The conference may continue several days. It is not the intention that any decision shall be given or any agreement made in these meetings. In fact both sides have openly announced they would be bound by no action taken at them.

"What is your stand regarding the agreement?" A Day Book reporter put this question to Gompers before the meeting.

"I expressed my opinion in a recent telegram," replied Gompers. "I am here to give those who think these statements wrong the opportunity to present the proof that may make me modify them."

A reporter for another paper tried to get Mr. Gompers to say that capital was fair to labor in Chicago. "Capital is not fair to labor here," was the only response.



"Dicky" Schultz, slayer of Mrs. Elizabeth Healy, escaped with two other murderers and a highwayman, from Chester hospital for criminal insanity.